



SCAN HERE



Spiritual Director:
Fr. Tim Ilgen



In the Footsteps of St Paul: Pilgrimage to Greece & Greek Isle Cruise

Your Pilgrimage Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare
- Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- 9 Nights Accommodation at Centrally Located First Class Hotels:
 - 2 nights: Athens Marriott, Athens
 - 3 nights: Celestyal Discovery Cruise (outside cabins with picture window XC)
 - 1 night: Amalia Hotel Delphi , Greece
 - 1 night: Amalia Hotel Kalambaka, Kalambaka
 - 2 nights: The Mat Hotel, Thessaloniki
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner while on Cruise
- Wine and Mineral Water with Dinners
- Transfers as per Itinerary
- Transportation by Air-conditioned Motor Coach
- Whisper Headsets Where Needed
- Assistance of a Professional Local Christian Guide
- Sightseeing and Admissions Fees as per Itinerary
- Mass Daily & Spiritual Activities
- Luggage Handling (1 piece per person)
- Port Taxes & Fees
- All Tips Included while on Cruise
- Shore Excursions while on Ship Include:
 - Mykonos (Walking tour), Kusadasi (Ephesus & the house of the Virgin Mary), Patmos (Monastery of St. John & Grotto of Apocalypse), Crete (Palace of Knossos), Santorini (Thira by cable car, walking tour, Mass at Santorini Cathedral)
- Flight Bag & Portfolio of All Travel Documents



Sept. 16 - 26, 2025

\$5,693 per person from Seattle (SEA)

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Sample Daily Itinerary

Day 1, Tue, Sept 16: Depart for Athens, Greece

Make your way to your local airport, where you will board your overnight flight(s). Onboard, meals will be served to you.

Day 2, Wed, Sept 17: Arrive in Athens

Welcome to Athens, one of the most glorious cities in the world and the cradle of western civilization as we know it today. Upon landing at Athens Airport, make your way to the baggage claim area and collect your luggage. Proceed to the arrival hall, where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. Board the bus to transfer to your hotel. Enjoy some time to relax after check-in, followed by a delicious Mediterranean dinner. Overnight in Athens.

Day 3, Thu, Sept 18: Athens and visit to Corinth

After breakfast at the hotel, start with a tour of the oldest city in the world, Athens! At the Acropolis, you will see the ruins of the Parthenon, Erectheum, and Propylene. Ascend Mars Hill where Saint Paul spoke to the Athenians about the one and only God (Acts 17:22). While in this city, view the ancient Agora, the former public center of Athenian life. It held the focus of a political, commercial, social, religious, and cultural center. Proceed with a drive through the city to view the House of Parliament on Syntagma Square. Also, have the opportunity to view the University of Athens, the oldest higher education institute in Greece and the National Library of Greece. Visit Panathenaic Stadium, the beautifully marbled multi-purpose stadium. It is home to the Olympian Zeus and the site of the first modern-era Olympics (1896). You will proceed to ancient Corinth where Saint Paul lived in Corinth for two years. In Corinth, have the opportunity to view the remains of the first century shops, the site of the Saint Pauls trial by Gallio, the Fountain of Peirene, and the Temple of Apollo. Following your visit to Corinth, return to Athens for a delicious meal and overnight.

Day 4, Fri, Sept 19: Athens - Start 3-day Cruise (Celestyal Cruises) to Mykonos

Following breakfast, proceed to the Piraeus port, where you will board your 3-day cruise. Your first stop will be the Island of Mykonos, the most cosmopolitan of the Greek islands that attract visitors from all over the world. After docking, transfer to Hora, the capital of the island. Enjoy a walking tour that will take you on the narrow cobbled streets of the city. Pass by chic boutiques, elegant nightclubs, and white-washed houses to arrive in Alefkandra. This part of Mykonos, known as the "Venice of Mykonos", as homes have wooden balconies and are built on the sea. Historically, these homes were of the wealthy merchants and captains. Return to the cruise ship for dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Sat, Sept 20: Kusadasi - Ephesus (Mary's House) - Patmos

Enjoy breakfast on board in the lively Turkish port of Kusadasi. We then transfer to the small village of Mt. Koressos. Visit the stone chapel situated upon the site, where the Virgin Mary spent her last days following the crucifixion of Christ. Walk through the Magnesians Gate to the ancient Ephesus. Enjoy a walking tour that will take you through the most magnificent excavations including the Odeon (concert hall), the Fountain of Trajan, the Scholastica, the Temple of Hadrian and the Latrians, the Library of Celsus. The last stop on the walking tour is the Great Theatre where Saint Paul preached. Follow the exact route that Mark Anthony and Cleopatra once rode in procession via the Arcadian Way. On your transfer back to Kusadasi, have the opportunity to view the Basilica of Saint John. In the sixth century, Emperor Justinian erected this structure over the grave of the evangelist, John. Enjoy free time to explore on your own before returning to the ship. The cruise journey continues to Patmos, where you will transfer to the village of Chora. While in this capital, visit the monastery of Saint John the Theologian. View the stunning main church that contains outstanding frescoes, the beautiful courtyard, dining room, and bakery. Visit the small museum and then transfer to the monastery. Visit the Grotto of the Apocalypse believed to mark the spot where John of Patmos received his visions that he recorded in the Book of Revelation. The silver niches in the wall mark the pillow and ledge were used as a desk by the author. View the three-fold crack made by the voice of God, who emphasized the importance of honoring the Holy Trinity. Your day will culminate with a transfer to the port of Scala. While in this quaint and picturesque harbor, enjoy free time before returning to the ship.

Day 6, Sun, Sept 21: Heraklion - Santorini

This morning, we visit the island of Crete, Heraklion. See the ancient ruins of the Palace of Knossos. The palace is currently partially reconstructed and believed to have been the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. Here is where Saint Paul met the owner/-and captain of the ship and was warned by him of continuing his journey to spread Christianity in Rome. Following this historical visit, embark by ship to the idyllic island of Santorini. Upon arrival, visit Thira with its iconic white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes, and glittering boutiques that cling to cliffs. This evening enjoy your last dinner and overnight on the cruise ship.

Day 7, Mon, Sept 22: Athens Disembark and continue to Delphi

This morning, following disembarkation you will visit the center of the ancient world (navel) of the earth, Delphi. Its prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus in a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty, lie the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. Visit the site and the museum and then enjoy some time in prayer and reflection.

Day 8, Tue, Sept 23: Delphi - Meteora - Kalambaka

After breakfast, board the motorcoach for a short drive to the Meteora Monasteries. In the eleventh century, some monks settled within caves. However, as the Turkish occupation increased, the monks were forced to move their settlements higher upon the rocks until they were unreachable by any opposing enemy. Notorious for preserving the Hellenic religion as well as their academics and arts. During your visit, you will be able to view stunning Byzantine art, as well as the breathtaking scenery that surrounds the monastery. Following visit transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 9, Wed, Sept 24: Meteora - Thessaloniki

Start your day with breakfast at your hotel and continue to Thessaloniki. In the winter of 49-50 A.D., Saint Paul wrote two epistles to the Thessalonians. These letters urged Christians to "live blamelessly" and to refrain from living idly while they wait for the second coming of Christ. While in Thessaloniki, you will witness several ancient artifacts, such as the triumphal Arch of Galerius found at the start of Via Egnatia. Due to the convenient location, this arch was once a strategic artery of the Roman Empire and constructed to honor the Roman Emperor Galerius following the Roman victory over the Persians. Following your city tour check in the Hotel and enjoy delicious dinner.

Day 10, Thu, Sept 25: Thessaloniki - Philippi - Kavala - Thessaloniki

After breakfast, start your journey in Greece with the first stop of the day in Philippi. Philippi was the city where Saint Paul the Apostle delivered his first sermon and established the 1st church in Europe. "And from there (He went) to Philippi, which is the leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman Colony. We remained in this city some days". (Acts 16:12-18). It is also the site where Saint Paul baptized a woman named Lydia, the first convert to Christianity in Europe. Visit the Roman Forum, where Saint Paul cast a spirit out of a fortune-telling woman. View the prison (now in ruins) where Saint Paul and Silas were thrown into by the owners of the fortune-tellers. Continue to the modern port city of Kavala, which was once the ancient Neapolis. This port is where Saint Paul, Silas, Luke, and Timothy landed when they sailed into Europe. After enjoying this city by the sea, return to Thessaloniki for a delicious meal and restful overnight.

Day 11, Fri, Sept 26: Thessaloniki Airport - Return home:

This morning, following breakfast you will say your heartfelt farewells to a journey that will last in your memory forever. Transfer to the Thessaloniki airport for your return flight(s) home.

****206 Tours Disclaimer: Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits.***